Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

receiving a list comprising media and at least two backup devices, wherein a first medium of the list is assigned to a first backup device, and a second medium of the list is assigned to a second backup device;

ordering the list by physical location of the at least two backup devices based on proximity of the remaining backup devices of the at least two backup devices to the first backup device; and

presenting at least the media portion of the ordered list to a user.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising before receiving the list, configuring a physical location for each of the backup devices.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein configuring the physical location comprises obtaining information for one or more site locations and assigning each of the backup devices to one of the site locations.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein configuring the physical location further comprises:

obtaining information for one or more data centers, each of the data centers associated with one of the site locations; and

assigning each of the backup devices to one of the data centers.

5. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein configuring the physical location comprises assigning a grid location in a data center to at least one of the

backup devices.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein configuring the physical location further comprises assigning an order number to each of the grid locations.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein assigning a grid location comprises for at least one of the backup devices, automatically assigning, to the backup device, a grid location of a system attached to the backup device.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein ordering the list comprises ordering the list by an order number associated with each of the backup devices.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the list comprises:

receiving a list of media from a user to be used for one or more future executions of one or more backup jobs associated with the backup devices.

10. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

receiving a list comprising media and at least two backup devices, wherein a first medium in the list is assigned to a first backup device, and a second medium in the list is assigned to a second backup device;

ordering the list by physical location of the at least two backup devices based on proximity of the remaining backup devices of the at least two backup devices to the first backup device; and

presenting at least the media portion of the ordered list to a user, wherein receiving the list comprises receiving a list of media from a user to be used for one or more future executions of one or more backup jobs associated with the backup devices, said method further comprising, before receiving the list, calculating a required number of scratch media needed for the future executions and presenting the required number of scratch media to the user.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein calculating comprises:

obtaining backup job information from one or more backup applications for the backup jobs; and

using the backup job information to calculate the required number of scratch media needed for the future executions.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein calculating the required number of scratch media comprises for at least one of the future executions, dividing an average historical backup size of the backup job by an average capacity of a media type associated with the backup job.

13. (Currently amended) A system comprising:

a planner to receive a list comprising media and at least two backup devices, wherein a first medium in the list is assigned to a first backup device, and a second medium in the list is assigned to a second backup device, and to order the list by physical location of the at least two backup devices based on proximity of the remaining backup devices of the at least two backup devices to the first backup device; and

a user interface, communicatively coupled to the planner, to present at least the media portion of the ordered list to a user.

14. (Original) The system of claim 13, further comprising a configuration agent, communicatively coupled to said planner, to configure a physical location for each of the backup devices.

15. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein said user interface is further to receive a list of media to be used for one or more future executions of one or more backup jobs associated with the backup device and to transmit the list to said planner.

16. (Currently amended) A system comprising;

a planner to receive a list comprising media and at least two backup devices, at least one medium in the list is assigned to a first backup device, and at least another medium in the list is assigned to a second backup device, and to order the list by physical location of the at least two backup devices based on proximity of the remaining backup devices of the at least two backup devices to the first backup device; and

a user interface, communicatively coupled to the planner, to present at least the media portion of the ordered list to a user, wherein said user interface is further to receive a list of media to be used for one or more future executions of one or more backup jobs associated with one of the at least two backup devices and to transmit the list to said planner and, wherein said planner is further to calculate a required number of scratch media needed for the future executions; and

wherein said user interface is further to present the required number of scratch media to a user.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16, further comprising an integration agent, communicatively coupled to said planner, to receive backup job information from one or more backup applications and wherein said planner uses the backup job information to calculate the required number of scratch media.

18. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the backup job information includes an average historical backup size for one or more of the backup jobs and said planner uses the average historical backup size to calculate the required number of scratch media.

19. (Currently amended) At least one machine-readable medium having stored thereon sequences of instructions, which, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform the actions of:

receiving a list comprising media and at least two backup devices, wherein a first medium of the list is assigned to a first backup device, and a second medium of the list is assigned to a second backup device;

ordering the list by physical location of the at least two backup devices based on proximity of the remaining backup devices of the at least two backup devices to the first backup device; and

presenting at least the media portion of the ordered list to a user.

20. (Previously presented) The medium of claim 19, wherein the instructions comprise instructions, which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform the actions of before receiving the list, configuring a physical location for each of the backup devices.

21. (Original) The medium of claim 20, wherein the instructions for configuring the physical location comprise instructions, which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform the actions of assigning a grid location in a data center to at least one of the backup devices.

22. (Original) The medium of claim 20, wherein the instructions for configuring the physical location comprise instructions, which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform the actions of assigning an order number to each of the grid locations.

23. (Previously Presented) At least one machine-readable medium having stored thereon sequences of instructions, which, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform the actions of:

receiving a list comprising media and at least two backup devices, wherein a first medium in the list is assigned to a first backup device, and a second medium in the list is assigned to a second backup device;

ordering the list by physical location of the at least two backup devices based on proximity of the remaining backup devices of the at least two backup devices to the first backup device; and

presenting at least the media portion of the ordered list to a user, said at least one machine-readable medium further comprising instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform the actions of:

before receiving the list, calculating a required number of scratch media needed for one or more future executions of one or more backup jobs associated with the backup devices;

presenting the required number of scratch media to the user; and

wherein receiving the list comprises receiving a list of media from a user to be used for the future executions.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the media are physically loaded into a backup device by a user in at least two different physical locations.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least two backup devices are assigned to two different site locations and wherein the ordering comprises ordering the list by physical location of the site locations of the at least two backup devices.

26. (New) The method of claim 4, wherein configuring the physical location further comprises:

assigning a global order number to a data center based on proximity of the data center to a first data center.

27. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the ordering the list by an order number comprises ordering the list by an order number indicative of the proximity of a backup device to the first backup device.